(f) by when the indigenous manufacturing/assembling policy of VCR/VCP would be relaxed for the small scale sector to stop illegal smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (f) Government are aware of the Press Report. As per available data, the production of VCRs/VCPs in the country during the year 1988 was 44,405 numbers. VCRs/VCPs are also being brought into the country through personal baggage.

Office of the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industry (SSI) in consultation with Department of Electronics (Administrative Ministry) has the responsibility to approve VCRs/VCPs production programme in SSI sector.

To meet the growing demand of VCRs/VCPs in the country which can only roughly be estimated at this stage, the Governmen had invited composite applications (Industrial Licence and Foreign Collaboration) for the manufacture of VCRs/VCPs from units which are prepared to commit sizeable investments for suitable vertical integration with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme and which have the requisite in-built capacity to keep pace with the changing technology.

Three units have already been granted Letters of Intent (LOIs) and Foreign Collaboration (FC) approvals, out of which one has been converted into Industrial Licence (IL) for manufacture VCRs/VCPs in the Country with an annual capacity of 3 lakhs nos. each. To ensure that the SSI units which have obtained VCR/VCP approvals in 1980-82 and are presently in operation get their supply of Video-Tape Deck Mechanisms (VIDMs) indigenously, a condition has been put in the LOIs/IL granted that "The Company would Supply 50% of the production of VTDMS to other VCR/VCP assemblers". With the establishment of adequate capacity, the demand of VCRs/VCPs in the country is expected to be met. Anti-smuggling drive has also been intensified.

Restriction on Phenylbutazone and Oxyphenbutazone

*205. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 120 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1989 and state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare took a decision not to ban the use of Phenylbutazone and Oxyphenbutazone but to restrict it for a particular disease only;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that these drugs not misused;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Kelkar Committee took a decision to exempt these drugs from price control on the ground that these drugs were being banned shortly;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not communicating this decision to the Kelkar Committee and the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals; and

(e) what steps are being taken to communicate this decision to the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals and by when the communication would be sent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. (*See* below)

(d) and (e) do not arise.

Statement

(b) (i) In consultation with experts, Phenylbutazone and Oxyphenbutazone have been permitted to be marketed for restricted use viz. ankylosing spondylitis and gouty arthritis only.

(ii) These are Schedule 'H' drugs and are required to be sold under the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner only.

(iii) Package inserts of these drugs are required to highlight the precautions and contra-indications for these drugs.

(iv) Indian Medical Association (IMA) was advised to intimate its members not to prescribe these drugs indiscriminately and restrict their use for the approved indications and not to use these drugs continuously for more than 7 days.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had recommended drugs used for National Health Programmes for price control to the Kelkar Committee. These two drugs are not used for any National Health Programme.

In view of the above position and in the absence of any decision to ban the use of these two drugs, the question of intimating the Kelkar Committee about them does not arise.

Obstacles in sending medical gifts to India from abroad

*206. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the obstacles in sending medical gifts to India by the Indian doctors working in America; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to simplify the procedure in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) There are no obstacles on the part of the Government in sending medical gifts to India by Indian doctors working in America.

(b) Procedures have already been simplified as far as possible.

Interception of Telephonic Conversation

*207. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons, circle-wise, whose telephonic conversation has been ordered to the intercepted by/or on behalf of the Central Government or a State Government as on 1st April, 1989;

(b) whether order of interception is of definite duration or subject to periodical review; and

(c) whether the list has been reviewed by the competent authority during 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the names of persons whose telephonic conversation has been ordered to be intercepted by/or on behalf of the Central Government.

In respect of such interceptions ordered by or on behalf of State Government, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, keeping in view the larger public interest.

(b) and (c) Every order of interception is for a specific duration and is subject to periodic review by the competent authority.

Seeking Swiss help in recording of evidence in India under the Swiss Federal Act on International Mutual Assistance

*208. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any FIR for criminal proceedings was filed by Government after the Swedish Audit Bureau revealed that